

Message Text

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17

ACTION OIC-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 AF-06 EA-06 NEA-10

DIWY-01 PA-01 CU-02 OES-03 L-03 EB-07 SS-15 AID-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9735

USUN NEW YORK 196

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 1201

E.O 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, IWY, UN

SUBJECT: BULGARIAN DELEGATION TO WCIWY

REF: A) STATE 129496; B) SOFIA 1198

1. PRESS HAS ANNOUNCED THAT MRS. ELENA LAGADINOVA, CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE OF BULGARIAN WOMEN, WILL HEAD BULGARIAN DELEGATION TO WORLD CONFERENCE OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR TO BE HELD IN MEXICO CITY JUNE 19 TO JULY 2. ONLY OTHER MEMBERS OF DELEGATION NAMED IN PRESS WERE MINISTER OF JUSTICE SVETLA DASKALOVA AND FIRST DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE FOR ART AND CULTURE LYUDMILA ZHIVKOVA. HOWEVER, OTHERS ALSO HAVE APPLIED FOR TRANSIT VISAS (SEE REFTTEL B). GROUP WILL TRANSIT US JUNE 16 AND JULY 3.

2. BIOGRAPHIC NOTES:

A) THESE THREE WOMEN ARE WELL KNOWN IN BULGARIAN SOCIETY WITH ZHIVKOVA THE MOST BECAUSE SHE IS THE DAUGHTER OF PRESIDENT AND PARTY FIRST SECRETARY ZHIVKOV, A WIDOWER WHOSE ONLY DAUGHTER ACTS AS HIS HOSTESS. OF LATE, ZHIVKOVA HAS BEEN TRAVELING BROADLY IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND MOST RECENTLY WAS IN LONDON WHERE SHE EARLIER

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RECEIVED PART OF HER POST GRADUATE EDUCATION. SHE IS A
HARD LINER WHO CAN SPOUT THE PARTY LINE EFFECTIVELY.
ZHIVKOVA HAS NOT APPLIED FOR US TRANSIT VISA. SHE RECENTLY
DEPARTED FOR CUBA, AND WE ASSUME SHE WILL JOIN IT IN MEXICO
CITY.

B) DASKALOVA HAS BEEN MINISTER OF JUSTICE SINCE 1966
AND IS A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNIST CONTROLLED AGRARIAN PARTY.
SHE IS ALSO ACTIVE IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. MORE ATTRACTIVE
PERSONALITY BUT LESS INFLUENTIAL THAN ZHIVKOVA. SHE
HAS TRAVELLED ABROAD AND IS WELL KNOWN IN JURIST CIRCLES IN
EUROPE. SHE IS AN EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATIVE WHO CAN BE EX-
PECTED TO PROMOTE THE PARTY POSITION BUT ALWAYS PRETENDING
THAT SHE REPRESENTS BULGARIAN SECOND PARTY AND IS UNBIASED.

C) LAGADINOVA IS A MEMBER OF THE BCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE,
A MEMBER OF THE STATE COUNCIL AND A FORMER PARTISAN FIGHTER.
SHE IS 44 YEARS OLD SO MUST HAVE BEEN ONLY A YOUTH WHEN SHE
JOINED THE PARTY. SHE IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.
SHE HAS TRAVELLED ABROAD IN HER ROLE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE

COMMITTEE OF BULGARIAN WOMEN. SHE WENT TO THE UNITED STATES
IN FEBRUARY 1974 TO ATTEND THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON THE
ROLE OF WOMEN IN POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT. SHE IS
REPUTED TO BE AN EFFECTIVE ORGANIZER AND LEADER.
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